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Grand Teton National Park PO Box 170 Moose, Wyoming 83012

Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs 307 739-3393 (fax 739-3419)

Grand Teton National Park News Release

FIRE IGNITES NEAR BLACKTAIL BUTTE IN GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

Interagency fire crews responded to a fire near Blacktail Butte in Grand Teton National Park on Wednesday, August 14, at 3:30 p.m. The Crandall Fire was burning in grass and sagebrush near heavy timber on the northeast side of the butte when Teton Dispatch received report of a fire. With dry conditions and gusty, 30-mph winds, the fire had potential to spread into dense forests on a nearby slope. The cause of the Crandall Fire is under investigation; however, lightning has been ruled out.

Three wildland fire engines, one structural fire engine and a Teton Interagency contract helicopter were dispatched to the fire. Lower Valley Energy also responded to the scene because power lines were in the vicinity. Crews surrounded the fire with water hose lines, holding it to 2 acres in size. The fire was declared contained at 5:36 p.m.

To ensure public safety and to facilitate access by firefighting equipment, temporary travel restrictions were placed on Antelope Flats Road and Mormon Row Road. Parking and climber access to the Practice Rocks on the northwest side of Blacktail Butte was also restricted. These temporary closures were lifted by 5:25 p.m.

Although cooler temperatures and recent moisture have helped to reduce fire danger, area residents and visitors are reminded that fire restrictions are still in effect. Warm, dry days with gusty winds can quickly increase the risk of a wildland fire. For more information on fire activity in the Jackson Hole area, visit www.tetonfires.com.

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